

Appl. No. 10/634,081
Amdt. Dated August 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 16, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A disposable wearing article for absorption of body fluids having a longitudinal direction, a transverse direction and a thickness direction said disposable wearing article and comprising:

an inner sheet lying in the a top in said thickness direction so as to face the a wearer's body,
body;

an outer sheet lying in the a bottom in said thickness direction; and

a body fluid absorbent first panel interposed between said inner and outer sheets and containing water-absorbent fibers,

~~said disposable wearing article further comprising:~~

said inner sheet comprising ~~formed by~~ a liquid-pervious sheet or a liquid-impervious sheet and said outer sheet comprising ~~formed by~~ a liquid-impervious sheet; and

said inner sheet and said first panel underlying said inner sheet lacking a part of a substantially central portion in said longitudinal direction as well as in said transverse direction as

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cut off so as to define a void, said void being filled with a second panel which is liquid-pervious and hydrophobic and have has compressive elasticity in said thickness direction,

said disposable wearing article further comprising:

a plurality of narrow strips extending parallel to one another in one of said longitudinal and transverse directions beyond said second panel and which narrow strips are spaced apart from one another so as to come in contact with a lower surface of said first panel, said narrow strips containing therein water-absorbent fibers compressed to a density higher than that of said water-absorbent fibers ~~in~~ of said first panel; and

a hydrophobic liquid-pervious spacer member lying aside from said narrow strips toward said outer sheet and extending beyond said second panel in both said longitudinal direction and said transverse direction to space said first panel and parts of said narrow strips apart from said outer sheet toward said inner sheet.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The wearing article according to claim 1, wherein said first panel comprises 100 to 10 wt % of the water-absorbent ~~fiber~~ fibers and 0 to 90 wt % of a super-absorbent polymer and said water-absorbent ~~fiber~~ fibers in said first panel ~~has~~ have a density of 0.04 to 0.10 g/cm.sup.3.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The wearing article according to claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of narrow strips comprises 100 to 20 wt % of water-absorbent ~~fiber~~, fibers, 0 to 80 wt % of

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super-absorbent polymer and 0 to 20 wt % of thermoplastic synthetic ~~fiber~~ fibers and said water-absorbent ~~fiber~~ fibers of said plurality of narrow strips has a density of 0.10 to 0.40 g/cm³ at least 0.03 g/cm³ higher than that of said water-absorbent ~~fiber~~ fibers in said first panel.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The wearing article according to claim 1, wherein said second panel comprises a first layer lying aside toward said inner sheet and a second layer lying aside toward said outer sheet both as viewed in said thickness direction, said first layer being formed by a laminate of thermoplastic synthetic resin film and thermoplastic synthetic ~~fiber~~ fibers placed on the inner side of said film and said second layer being formed by opened-cell polyurethane foam, said laminate forming a plurality of narrow strips extending adjacent to one another in one of said longitudinal and transverse directions, and each of said plurality of narrow strips being formed on its an upper surface with ~~alternate~~ crests and troughs that alternate ~~troughs repeated~~ in a longitudinal direction of said narrow ~~strip~~ strips so that said crests in one of said narrow strips lie adjacent to said troughs in an adjacent narrow strip ~~the other narrow strip adjacent to said one of said narrow strips~~ and said thermoplastic synthetic fibers are exposed on side surfaces of said crests. crests, said troughs being defined by and between the crests.

Claim 5 (Original): The wearing article according to claim 1, wherein said second panel comprises a porous liquid-pervious thermoplastic synthetic resin sheet.